

Brighter Town Win In Thrilling Finish

By Chiltern

LUTON TOWN 2 BURY 1

The sands of time were running out at Kenilworth-road on Saturday, and it began to look as if the victory which everyone agreed was vital to the Town in this match was not to be.

Watches were being consulted anxiously, and most of the 14,365 spectators were resigned to the loss of another home point when the Town at last reaped the reward of a lot of previous good play and snatched the winning goal with three minutes to spare.

To Glover fell the chance to score the goal which was the most cheering sight the Town fans have had for months, and which enabled them to break what had become a monotonous run of home failures.

Jinks capped a very good afternoon's work by gaining possession of the ball through sheer persistence, and lifting it into the goal-mouth.

Kiernan allowed it to pass to GLOVER, who was much better placed, and he drove it well out of the reach of Grieves, whose work had put paid to several earlier scoring efforts.

The start of the match suggested a runaway win for the Town, for they found gap after gap in the Bury defence by the sheer brilliance of their football.

Two good chances went astray, and twice as many fine saves by Grieves stopped the Town from getting goals, and by the time the fury of the first bout of pressure had burnt itself out, and Bury's forwards began to take an interest in the proceedings, the Town were still without the goals which had looked certain to come.

OMINOUS SIGN

This was probably regarded as an ominous sign by most of the fans, for we have seen something of the sort happen before, and then watched the Town go down to defeat.

There seemed a definite threat of this when Bury broke away and took the lead five minutes after the interval, when MASSART, ever on the look out for the odd chance, took advantage of some slack defensive work to beat Hughes with a low cross-shot.

shot.

The Lancashire team held this advantage for only five minutes, and then Kiernan made a grand dribble to present WYLDDES with an easy task to gain the equaliser.

This was a brighter Town with an attack which looked more dangerous in front of goal, and which, with a little more luck in the run of the ball, would probably have scored more goals.

That is not to indicate that they were not guilty of inaccurate finishing at times—they were—but in the main there was more bite about the work of the forwards.

Part of this was attributable to the newcomer, Jinks, who surely fulfilled everybody's expectations, and the reception he gained at the end was indicative of the feelings of the Town supporters.

KEPT ATTACK MOVING

Although he did not score, he kept the line moving most smoothly, and apart from the accuracy of his passing, his weight made him a decided asset, and he always looked dangerous in front of goal.

Apart from a quiet spell in the first half, the inside forwards did their job well, with Kiernan the more prominent, though Stobbart put in much hard and useful work.

The late goal made the match for Glover, and he had some very good spells inter-mixed with some which were merely indifferent. There was, though, a good supply of centres from him.

The determined, persistent Wyldes did better after the interval than he did in the first half when an early missed chance may have sapped his confidence a little. However, he came up with an invaluable goal, and he made some excellent crosses.

A weakness in the Town team was at wing half, where neither Morton nor Gardiner reached anything approaching top form. Neither was certain enough in the tackle, and their use of the ball was inaccurate on far too many occasions. Both were triers, but things just did not seem to come off for them.

The rest of the defence was adequate enough, with Owen a commanding figure at centre-half and both Aherne and Cooke making useful contributions.

Cooke was both quick and decisive in the way in which he dealt with Hazlett, but Aherne found Bellis a little more troublesome.

Although he was probably taken by surprise by Massart's scoring shot, Hughes accomplished his work with considerable certainty, and he is gradually building for himself a big reputation.

LUTON TOWN: Hughes; Aherne, Cooke; Morton, Owen, Gardiner; Glover, Kiernan, Jinks, Stobbart, Wyldes.

BURY: Grieves; Fairclough, Griffiths (G); Whitworth, Hart, Bardsley; Hazlett, Worthington, Massart, Bodle, Bellis.

Referee: R J Leafe, Nottingham.